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engaged with other work on hand and could not undertake the construction of the bodies on the 30 chassis which had to be done very urgently. The quotation for construction of bodies by Messrs. General Motors was also extremely reasonable and reports from users regarding their bodies were very favourable.''

Scales of pay of the maistries under the Highways Department.

* 739 *Q.*—SRI K. R. VISWANATHAN: Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the maistries under the Highways Department are whole-time Government servants of the department;

(*b*) if not, the reasons for not treating them as whole-time Government servants; and

(*c*) if so, the pay scales granted to them?

THE HON. SRI N. RANGA REDDI :– '' (*a*) Yes.

'' (*b*) Does not arise.

'' (*c*) The maistries are on monthly rates of pay varying from Rs. 20 to Rs. 100 and there is no time scale of pay prescribed for them. Their pay varies from place to place as it has been fixed taking into consideration the prevailing market rates. The Divisional Engineers have got powers to fix the pay of the maistries up to Rs. 100 per mensem and also to grant them increments, ranging from Re. 1 to Rs. 5 according to their deserts.''

Kist collection in Kudligi taluk, Bellary district.

* 740 *Q.*—SRI K. KOTRA BASAVANA GOUD : Will the Hon. the Minister for Land Revenue be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the kist collection in Kudligi taluk of Bellary district has been postponed;

(*b*) whether the Government have granted remission of land revenue; and

(*c*) if so, what percentage?

THE HON. SRI M. A. MANICKAVELU NAICKER :—'' (*a*) Yes. Collection of kist due in the months of January and February 1953 has been postponed to April and May 1953 respectively.

'' (*b*) & (*c*) Proposals for land revenue remission in respect of any part of Bellary district have not so far been received by the Government.''